

SENATE RESOLUTION 204

By Norris

A RESOLUTION to honor and applaud Head Coach Ken Netherland and the St. George's Independent School football team on capturing the TSSAA Division II, Class A State Championship.

WHEREAS, the General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those successful high school teams that, through their magnificent exploits, bring honor to the State of Tennessee and serve as exceptional ambassadors of this State; and

WHEREAS, led by Head Coach Ken Netherland, the St. George's Independent School football team is one such commendable team which achieved an extraordinary level of success during the 2007 season, as it posted twelve victories with no losses and won its first Division II, Class A State Championship on November 24, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the St. George's Gryphons dominated the field all season, winning ten games and losing none on their unstoppable drive to the BlueCross Bowl in Murfreesboro; and

WHEREAS, the Gryphons continued their success by routing their playoff opponents, First Assembly Christian School, by the score of 38-0; and

WHEREAS, the Gryphons completed their phenomenal season by defeating the Southern Baptist Educational Center Trojans at the BlueCross Bowl by the score of 17-9, thereby capturing the team's first state football championship in only its third season competing at the varsity level; and

WHEREAS, this exceptional season was led by the outstanding individual performances of Mr. Football winners Ben Popeck and Grant Jessen and Mr. Football finalist Hunter Cowan, and

WHEREAS, the powerful Gryphon offense scored a phenomenal 452 points, an average of 37.7 per game, while their stalwart defense gave up only 137 points, an average of 11.4 per game; and

WHEREAS, highly respected head coach Ken Netherland has now won 333 games, putting him in second place for the most career wins amongst TSSAA football coaches. His capable assistants were Brent Hill, Scott Crockett, Harvey Seligman, Scott Schaefer, David Stooksbury, Daniel Holmes, and Herkie Cantu; and

WHEREAS, the members of this talented team were Carter Anderson, Walker Benz, Taylor Blackwood, Blake Boraten, Cabell Brown, Preston Brown, Todd Carlson, Justin Carpenter, Bobby Cooper, Hunter Cowan, Blake Deaton, Brooks DeGutis, Connor Doolin, Ryan Doolin, Blake Edwards, Zach Feinstone, Eric Folk, Scott Folk, Matt Frasse, Taylor Gordon, Michael Gore, Kadarrious Green, Trey Greenwell, Desmond Harris, Forbes Harris, Robert Heard, Ross Hepner, Britton Hibbard, John Howell, Jake Hughes, Rob Hyde, Grant Jessen, Robert Johnson, Bo Leatherman, Tyler Lester, Taylor Lewis, Parker Loy, Jeremy Parks, Bridges Phillips, Ben Popeck, Connor Popeck, Nathan Rose, Thomas Schaefer, Corey Scheinblum, Brandon Toney, Richard Vollmer, Tripp Westmoreland, Carson Williams, Greg Wilson, and Zachary Woods; and

WHEREAS, these gifted athletes were assisted by Managers Blair Madole, Taylor Medlin, and John Williams; and

WHEREAS, the dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent of this group of young men not only made possible a successful and memorable football season, but also surely point toward success in their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, displaying great sportsmanship and outstanding character, the members of St. George's Independent School football team conducted themselves in a manner appropriate to the integrity of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee takes great pride in the tremendous accomplishments of those student athletes who have excelled both on the field and in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Head Coach Ken Netherland and the 2007 St. George's Independent School football team on winning the 2007 TSSAA Division II, Class A State Football Title.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.